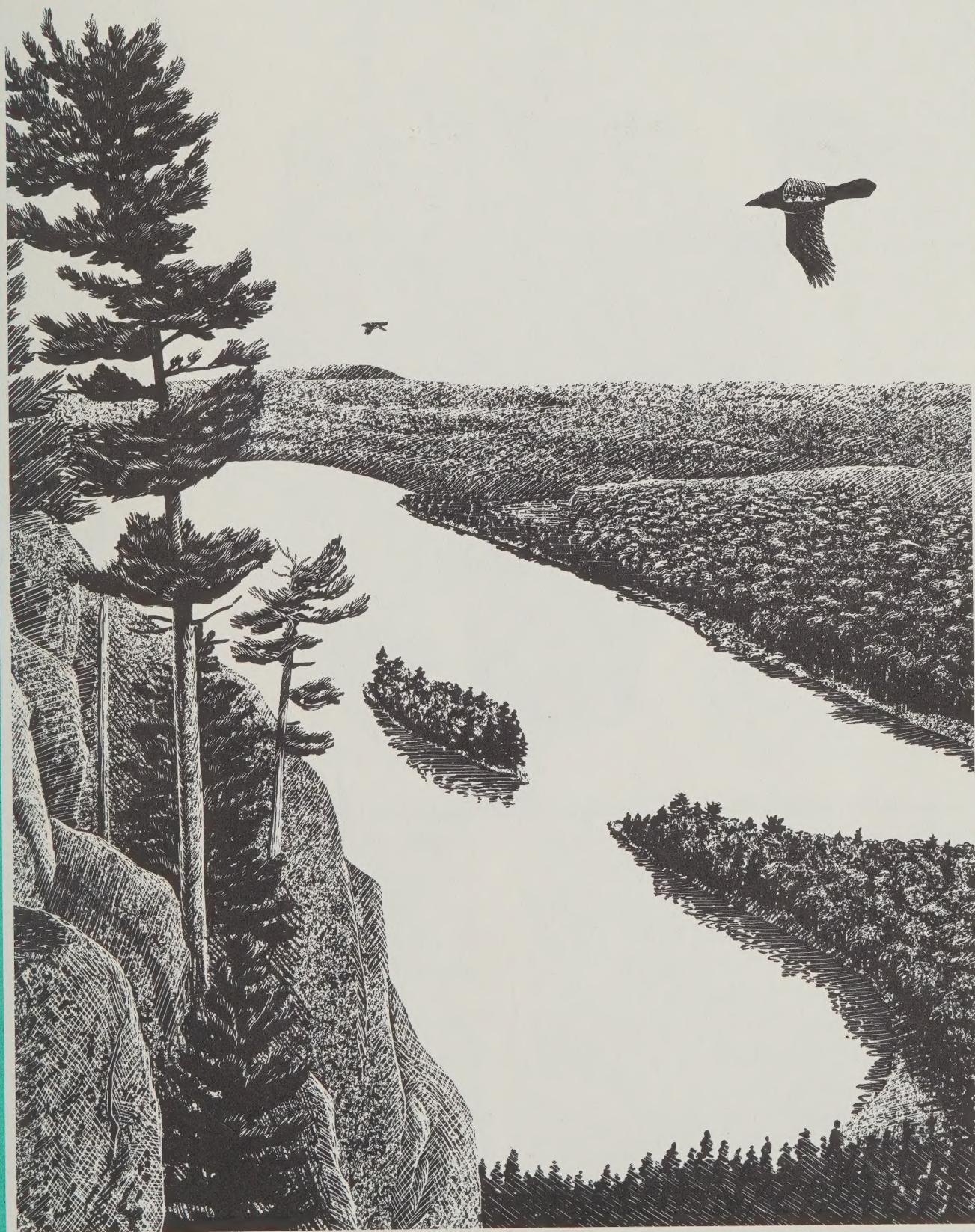




# Centennial Ridges Trail

Historic Figures of Algonquin

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# Centennial Ridges Trail

Text by Dan Strickland



Printed on recycled paper

Drawings by Howard Coneybeare



Although this trail guide is printed by The Friends of Algonquin Park all information on the trail is obtained from the Ministry of Natural Resources. The Ministry is responsible for the establishment, maintenance and marking of all such facilities, and for the accuracy of all information contained in this guide.

The Centennial Ridges Trail is a 10 km loop which takes you along two high, parallel ridge systems and features some of the Park's most outstanding scenery. It is a very demanding trail that visits five separate cliffs and involves much climbing. At the highest point you will be 170 m (560 ft) above the parking lot but, because the trail has several major rises and descents, the total vertical distance you will have to climb during your outing is approximately 360 m (1,200 ft). You must be in good physical condition, you must be wearing sturdy, ankle-supporting boots, and you must allow about 6 hours to take

on this challenge. Please note also that the cliff tops are not fenced and a fall from any one of them would be fatal. Exercise great care and keep any children under close physical contact.

The trail was opened in 1993 as part of Algonquin's Centennial celebrations and, at its various lookouts and scenic viewpoints, it honours 11 representative historic personages who have helped shape the present day Park and make it so famous as a place to understand and appreciate the natural world.

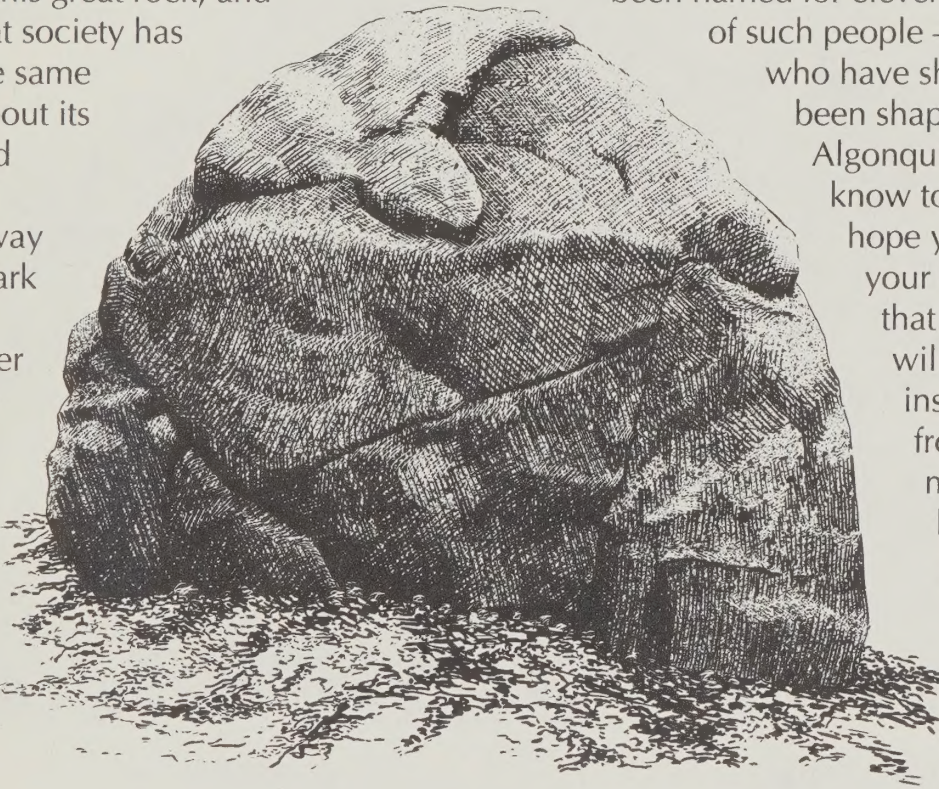
Have a great day on the trail.



## Post 1 A Lot Has Happened

The huge block of granite before you is about one and a half billion years old. Obviously, Algonquin's mere 100 years of existence as a Park (1893-1993) represent only the tiniest fraction of this enormous span. And yet, in human terms, a century is a very long time indeed. It is all too easy for modern visitors to take the Park for granted, to assume that it is an institution as timeless as this great rock, and to presume that society has always had the same perceptions about its forests, fish and wildlife.

In fact, the way we view the Park has changed remarkably over the last 100 years and our present attitudes have been shaped to a surprising degree by the influence of a very



small number of people. In turn the Park itself has had a profound influence on our society — often because particular people have been inspired by their experiences here, have formed a strong philosophy about the natural world, and have gone on to communicate this way of thinking to thousands of others.

The remaining stops on this trail have been named for eleven examples of such people — people who have shaped, and been shaped by, the Algonquin Park we know today. We hope you enjoy your hike and that you too will draw inspiration from this magnificent landscape. And now the climbing begins!

## Post 2 Founders' Ridge

When we contemplate a splendid view such as this, so welcome and necessary in our busy, city-shaped lives, it is easy to assume that the establishment of Algonquin Park back in 1893 was inspired by a desire to preserve part of the natural environment.

It may come as a surprise, therefore, to learn that the thinking behind the Park and the men who pushed the idea, however enlightened by the standards of the day, were actually much more inspired by practical, utilitarian questions.

The first person to propose a 20 to 30 township reserve in the area now occupied by the Park was Robert W. Phipps,

clerk of forestry in the Ontario government's Department of Agriculture and Arts. Strongly influenced by growing concerns in North America's agricultural and forestry intelligentsia that the continent's wood supply and climate were being endangered by the rapid, wholesale clearing of forests, Phipps insisted that it was crucial to stop agricultural settlement and land clearing in this part of Ontario. "When covered with extensive woods", he wrote, "the principal heights of land form reservoirs which supply the sources of numerous rivers, give moisture to the numerous small lakes and watercourses...below them, and preserve





**Robert Phipps**

**Alexander Kirkwood**  
**Whitefish Lake**

throughout the whole country a fertility, invariably much impaired when the forests are removed". Powerful lumbermen of the day were quick to support the idea of a forest reserve as well. From experience elsewhere, they knew only too well that the encroachment of settlers meant loss of forest through clearing and increased forest fires, so they readily agreed with Phipps' belief that the land in question "in forest forever should remain".

Phipps found another strong ally in Alexander Kirkwood, a chief clerk in the Ontario Department of Crown Land. Once an enthusiastic proponent of agricultural settlement in northern Ontario, Kirkwood had come to realize that most such efforts were doomed to miserable failure and that the land was far better left in forest. He echoed Phipps' ideas on watershed

protection and he did his best to marshal as many other practical arguments as he could, putting each one in the most utilitarian light possible. Logging, for example, would continue, controlled so as to achieve "utility and profit". Fur-bearing animals would be protected, partly to preserve them, but also with a view to "taming and domesticating them", again "for use and profit". Even "seekers for health and pleasure" would be accommodated in cottage leases or hotels "offered to public competition at an annual rental". Kirkwood played a key role in swaying opinion and it was he who proposed the name "Algonkin Forest and Park".

For all his advocacy of the Park idea, Kirkwood had never actually set foot in Algonquin and it fell to another man to speak from first-hand experience. James





**James Dixon**

**George MacCallum**  
**Lake of Two Rivers**

Dickson had surveyed much of the Park area in the 1880s, and had even written a charming book extolling its virtues for outdoor recreation and comparing it favourably with other more famous and faraway beauty spots such as the Rockies. Dickson, too, heartily endorsed the idea of an Algonquin Park, but even his testimony wasn't enough to swing the political balance.

The final, decisive push came from a fourth man, Dr. G. A. MacCallum, chairman of a Royal Commission on Game and Fish that the provincial government had been forced to set up by anglers and hunters convinced that Ontario's fish and wildlife were in imminent danger of being destroyed and eliminated. In 1892, MacCallum's final report unequivocally

blasted Ontario's existing fish and wildlife management and "strongly and unanimously" recommended the "formation of a provincial game park" as the "best means of restocking the province" with wildlife.

One week later an embarrassed Ontario government set up another royal commission, with Kirkwood as its chairman, to expedite the creation of the Park, whose existence was now deemed a political imperative. The Commission met only twice and the new Algonquin Park came into being on May 27, 1893.

It is interesting to realize that we owe the creation of Algonquin Park a century ago, not to poets, artists or wilderness advocates, but instead to a coalition of loggers, hunters and bureaucrats...Times change!



## Post 3 Bartlett's Bluff

George W. Bartlett was not the first superintendent of Algonquin but he had by far the longest tenure (1898 - 1922), and he definitely set the tone for the Park's early days. He expanded surveillance by rangers, gradually brought poaching under control, slowly improved the portages, and showed a now unthinkable interest in introducing exotic wildlife to the Park. The

flavour of his era is shown by these excerpts from his annual report for 1901. Keep in mind that when Superintendent Bartlett wrote his report there were no telephones, no radios, no Highway and no campgrounds and that the handful of visitors who did come, took the train to Park headquarters, then at Cache Lake.



Jan. 13, 1902

*"Sir, — As is customary, I respectfully beg to hand you herewith report on the Algonquin National Park for the year 1901."*

*"The Park staff is composed of eleven rangers besides the superintendent. My men have done good work and have succeeded wonderfully in keeping out trappers when you consider the large area they have to cover. Our deer, pheasants, etc. have done well. We raised two very fine fawns last summer."*

*"There have been a large number of visitors to the Park, all of whom have expressed themselves delighted with the success that has attended the efforts of the Government to protect the game and fur-bearing animals. Deer are very numerous everywhere and can be*



seen at almost all times in large numbers from the train as you pass through. Beaver, mink, otter, etc. are also very plentiful, and have increased wonderfully. Wolves, I regret to say, are very bold and numerous this winter, and the rangers have put out a large quantity of poison to destroy them. Moose are plentiful, and are frequently seen by the rangers and tourists."

"The black (smallmouth) bass put into these lakes during the past two years have increased far beyond my most extreme hopes, and are very abundant. Young bass can be caught in any of the lakes in great numbers."

"Lumbering is going on in the Park at several points, but we never had less trouble with the employees of the lumber firms than we have had during the past year, and I feel that the different licence holders are co-operating with us as they never did before. Smallpox has visited some of the camps in the Park this season and there are several cases reported at Lake of Two Rivers. I think some strong measures should be taken to stamp out the disease in these camps."

"My staff have just finished cutting and hauling a large supply of firewood. They will now fill the ice house and then go out to their several sections until spring."

*Your obedient servant,*

*G. W. Bartlett*

*Superintendent*

## **Post 4 MacDougall Mountain**

You are now close to the highest point on the trail at 560 metres, or 1850 feet, above sea level. We think it appropriate to name this impressive lookout for Superintendent Frank MacDougall because he looms larger than probably anyone else in the Park's history.

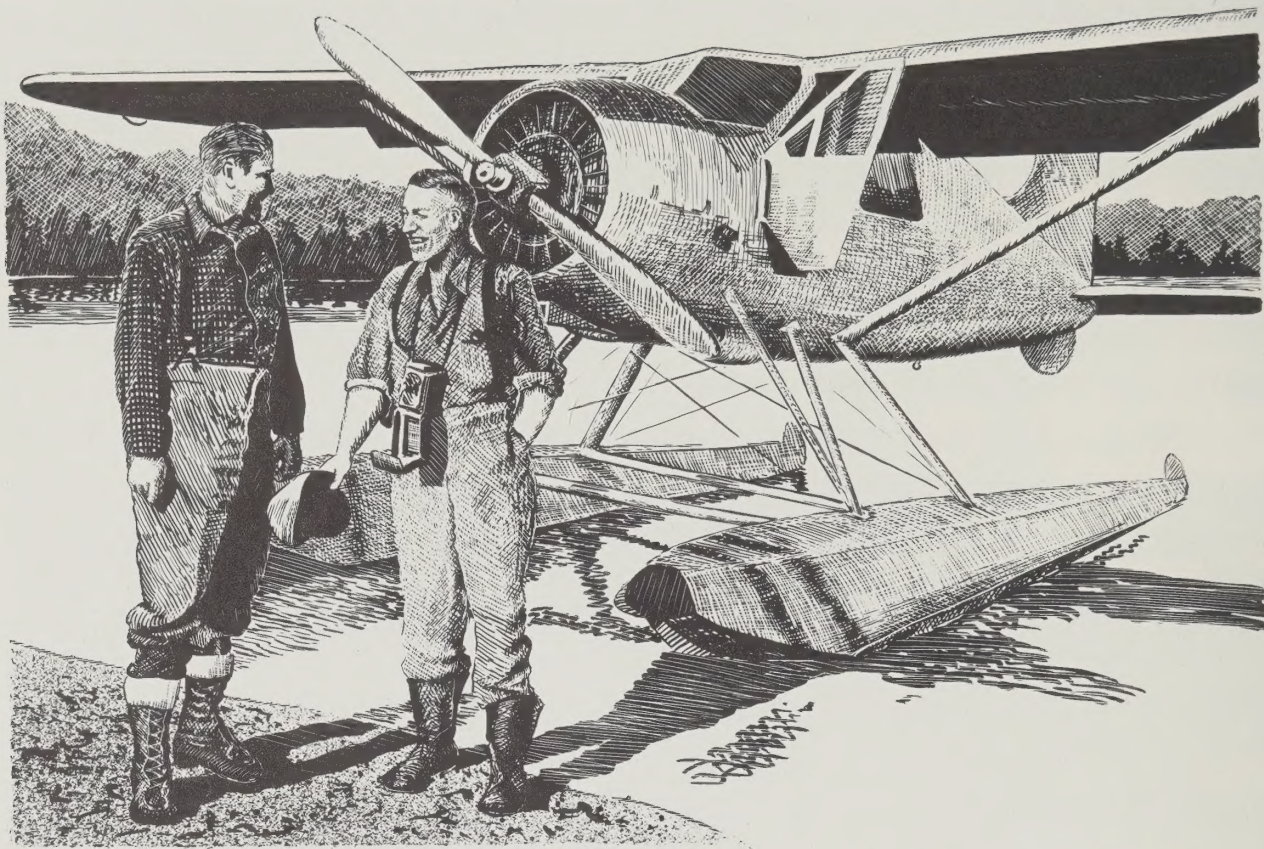
MacDougall was just 35 when he came to Algonquin as superintendent in 1931, in the depth of the Great Depression, and he was here for only 10 years. Nevertheless, during that short and difficult period he not only distinguished himself as a brilliant and innovative administrator but he also laid the foundations for many aspects of Algonquin Park that we take for granted today.

He insisted, for example, as soon as he arrived, that he be provided with a plane. Among his many other skills, MacDougall was an accomplished bush pilot, and his personal introduction of aerial surveillance to park management was a key factor in winning the battles against poachers in the winter and forest fires in the summer.

MacDougall was a forester by training, and he certainly believed in continued logging in Algonquin, but he also saw that other sectors of the population were entitled to their sometimes differing views. Long before it became the fashion, MacDougall saw the value of public consultation and he sought to at least soften the clash he saw developing between loggers and recreationists through the then revolutionary concept of "multiple use". He introduced the idea of zoning whereby some lands, particularly along lakeshores and rivers, would be withdrawn from logging. He invited scientists to set up biological research stations in the Park and he established, way back in 1940, the province's very first ecological reserves — two stands of old growth pine that he thought should be preserved for future study and contemplation.

MacDougall was also very much a people person and he strongly believed in making the riches of Algonquin Park available to current and future generations.





**Frank MacDougall (right) with his Beaver aircraft at Lake of Two Rivers.**

He produced the Park's first information brochure and canoe route map, and he even commissioned the Park's first official history, compiled and written by a graduate student named Audrey Saunders (at a time when it was unheard of for women to be entrusted with such things). Last but not least, he encouraged Dr. J. R. Dymond of

the University of Toronto, to set up Canada's first nature interpretation program. The program is now a fixture of Algonquin, and through it, hundreds of thousands of people have Frank MacDougall to thank for their enjoyment and appreciation of the great Park you see stretching from here out to the horizon.

## **Post 5 Robinson's Ridge**

The first superintendents of Algonquin may have set the direction of Algonquin Park, but it was the dozen or so rangers who did the hard, day-to-day work.

This ridge is named for one of them, a man named Mark Robinson who worked here from 1907 to 1936, and became perhaps the most famous of all Algonquin Park rangers.

In the early days, each ranger was assigned his own section of the Park and had the responsibility for taking care of it. A system of cabins, each about a day's travel from the next, allowed the ranger and his partner to patrol the area, whether on showshoes in winter to guard against poachers, or by canoe in summer to clear portages and campsites. It was taken for

granted, however, that the rangers would stay out there for months at a time, perhaps going out from Headquarters after Christmas hauling their provisions by sled and only returning in May, by canoe.

Mark Robinson in particular worked much of the time in the Joe Lake-Canoe Lake area in the southern part of the Park and he was therefore much less isolated than most rangers. Nevertheless, his wife and five children had to live and attend school in Barrie, a hundred miles away, and he could only get out to see them three times a year (other than the summer holidays when the family could join him in the Park). Being stationed relatively close to the lodges and Park Headquarters meant that Robinson got more than his fair share



of oddball jobs — like shooting deer to alleviate a meat shortage in Toronto during World War I, live-trapping beaver for zoos or to re-establish beaver populations elsewhere in the world, or helping apprehend Grey Owl, the eccentric Englishman who successfully passed himself off as an Indian and who had bet he could cross Algonquin in the winter without getting caught...

Most of all, Mark Robinson became famous for passing on his deep insights into the bush he knew so well to Park visitors. He was a close friend of Tom Thomson, the great painter who lived and worked in Algonquin from 1912 to 1917 and he regularly hosted famous foreign journalists and visiting scientists. At the same time, he went out of his way to speak to less famous visitors — especially young ones.

Indeed, from his retirement right up until 1952, Mark Robinson spent a month each summer at Camp Ahmek here in the Park imparting his knowledge to a new generation. A special chair was reserved for him and, at a set time every day, the old ranger would sit down, youngsters would gather at his feet, and, slowly, they

would come to see what he learned from a lifetime in his beloved Algonquin. It was this kind of sharing that prompted Ontario's late premier Leslie M. Frost to say of Mark Robinson, "he did more to interest young people in the out-of-doors than any other man alive."



**Ranger Mark Robinson**

## **Post 6   Gordon's Grove**

Besides hemlocks, the grove of conifers before you contains Red Spruce, a tree that, in Ontario, is restricted almost entirely to little pockets like this one in and around the Algonquin highlands. The grove is named for Dr. Alan G. Gordon, the first forester to recognize that Red Spruce even occurred in our province, and the man who went on to study its ecology and the proper management for preserving it.

Gordon began his career as a keen young naturalist and was one of those Camp Ahmek campers who learned at the feet of the old ranger, Mark Robinson. Inspired by his mentor and the Algonquin Park environment, Gordon went on to develop an unparalleled ability to perceive the inner ecological workings of the forest environment and, as a distinguished

researcher, to put his understanding on a firm scientific footing. He was one of the first investigators to see the link between "acid rain" and forest damage, and he painstakingly discovered how nutrients like nitrogen and calcium are cycled through the forest ecosystem — with important implications for how forests should be managed and logged.

A major and surprising recent finding he has made concerns the importance of the spruce budworm in our coniferous forests, and indeed to the Canadian economy. In periodic major outbreaks, spruce budworm caterpillars attack both spruce trees and Balsam Fir. Millions of dollars of timber are lost each year, and millions are spent in attempts to control or eradicate the budworms. Ironically, Gordon's data clearly show that under





## Post 7 Case's Crest

This beautiful cliff top with its wind-swept pines is named for Fannie L. Case. She was a psychologist and high school teacher from Rochester, New York, who back in 1908 came to Algonquin and established Northway Lodge, on Cache Lake, the first girls camp in Canada. Case had strong ideas about developing character in her campers through shared tasks and comradeship in a natural setting. The camping experience at Northway was always built around canoe tripping in the wilds of Algonquin and the camp itself consists, even today, of only the barest necessities — a few simple log cabins built by the campers themselves and a series of sleeping tents for use between trips.

Northway was the first camp in the Park but no fewer than 15 others have operated at one time or another (eight are still going today), and we estimate that at least 100,000 boys and girls from all over the world had attended camp here by the end of the Park's first century. Among their

natural conditions, budworm outbreaks do far more damage to the weed-like balsam trees than they do to the valuable spruce. Indeed, the only reason spruce have been able to persist in many forests is that budworm outbreaks have periodically knocked back the otherwise overwhelming competition from young balsam trees and allowed a few young spruce to survive for another generation. It follows therefore, that if we ever succeeded in getting rid of the spruce budworm in our northern forests we would also get rid of most of our economically valuable spruce and be left with a forest of relatively worthless Balsam Fir.

It is insights like these that can make an enormous improvement in our understanding of how forests work, and even a tremendous difference to our country's future economic well-being. We are proud of the role played in achieving this breakthrough by the Park itself, by an old ranger, and by a perceptive young Algonquin camper named Al Gordon.

number have been two prime ministers of Canada, three provincial premiers and countless important figures in the artistic and business communities of Canada. All, we are sure, were marked to an greater or lesser degree by their wonderful experiences here, and these in turn were only made possible by the enterprise and dedication of the men and women who established and directed those camps in the first place.

Certainly, to return to the particular example of Fannie Case and Northway, the influence of this one woman on over two generations of campers was enormous. When she died at age 87 in 1955, her successor wrote: "We who knew her in the prime of her life, remember her understanding and her gentle courageous spirit. She was the embodiment of Faith, Trust and Hope. We pray that Northway shall always be able to give each child a bit of the philosophy of Miss Case."





## Post 8 Thomson's Cloud

Tom Thomson, Canada's most famous landscape artist, probably never visited Cloud Lake — but we think it is just the sort of quiet and beautiful little place he would have liked to paint.

Thomson first came to Algonquin Park in 1912, fell in love with what he saw, and over the next five years developed a breathtaking new way of seeing and portraying Canadian landscapes. He left us a legacy of 400 sketches and over two dozen canvases. Many, like *Northern River*, *Spring Ice*, *Jack Pine* and *The West*

*Wind*, are now among powerful images in our collective Canadian consciousness. These national treasures hang mainly in the National Gallery in Ottawa, the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto and the McMichael Collection in Kleinburg, north of Toronto.

The inspirations for his masterpieces — the forests and the lakes, the bogs and the rivers, the sunsets and the skies are, of course, still where Thomson found them — right here in Algonquin Park. If only we could all see as brilliantly as he did.





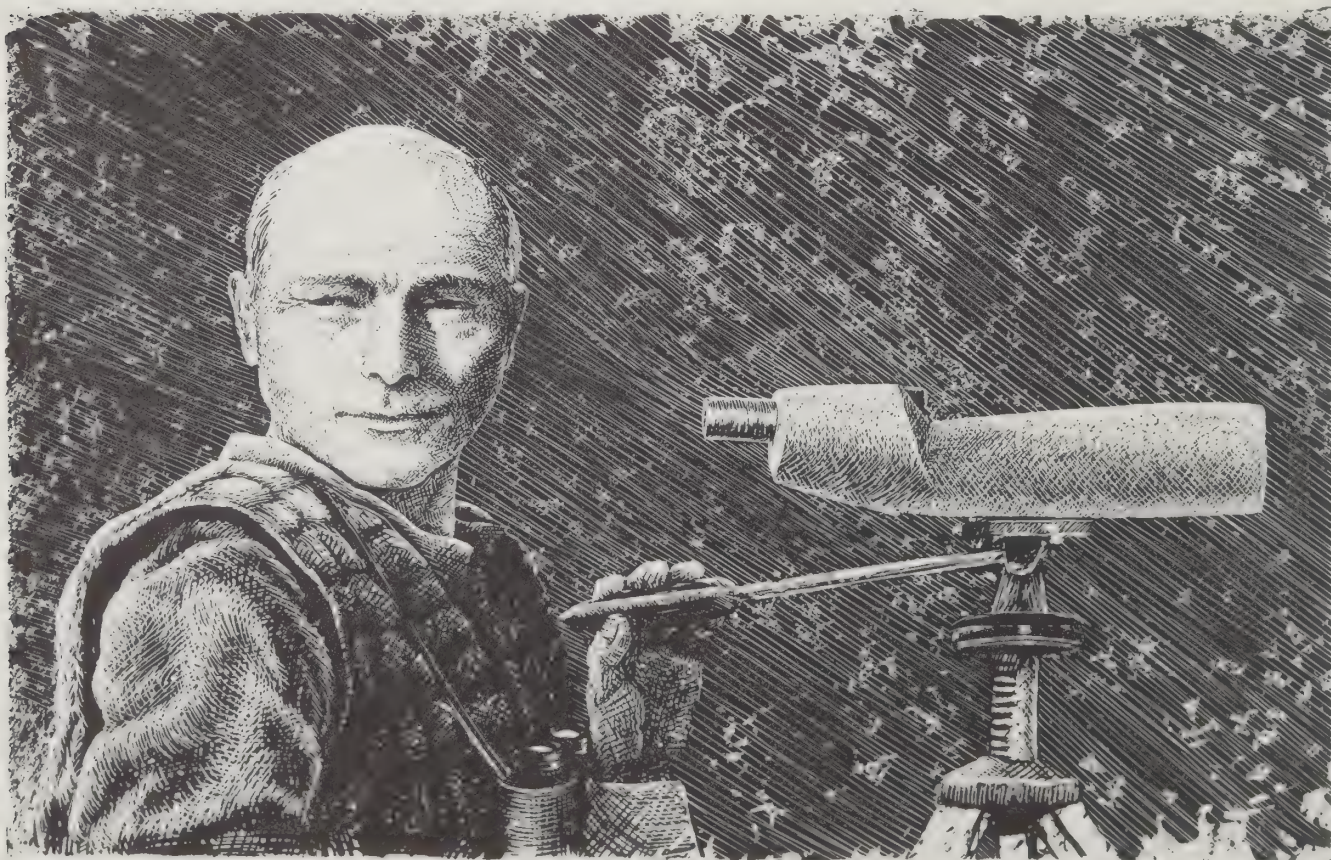
## Post 9 Pimlott's Pond

Douglas H. Pimlott was a wildlife biologist who headed up a pioneering investigation into the ecology of timber wolves here in the Park from 1958 to 1965. We have named this stop on the trail for him because the scene here is exactly the sort of place that his program discovered to be used by wolves in the summer as a "rendezvous site" — a place where pups are left for days or weeks at a time while the adults go out each night and hunt food for their young.

When Doug began his work, very little was known about wolves. The common attitude was one of downright hatred, and even here in the Park, rangers were encouraged to kill as many as they could — by shooting, snaring, or, for a time, even poison. Pimlott's wolf research started to change the old views, not only by discovering the role they really play as the top predator in the Algonquin Park ecosystem, but also by coming up with a novel way for Park visitors to make personal contact with an animal we normally never see. The researchers found that wolves readily answer recorded howls or even human imitations, and indeed this

was a major breakthrough permitting the researchers to find and census wolves in the summer, for example, or to find dens and rendezvous sites. Soon Park staff were also using the technique to get answers for interested park visitors, and now thousands of people regularly join staff each summer on enormously popular "Public Wolf Howls".

As important as Pimlott's work on wolves was, that was far from his only endeavour. Doug was profoundly influenced by his years here and became deeply convinced of the need to fight for wilderness preservation and for the wise use of natural resources. He became what we might now call an "environmental activist", at first fighting for a more preservationist parks policy in Ontario, and later going on to work with many other groups, especially aboriginal people, on other natural resource issues from coast to coast. He was a man who gave much to Algonquin and a man who learned from the Park the value of wild country and imparted that vision to thousands of others across Canada.





## Post 10 Nick's Outlook

Whitefish Lake, far below you, is one of a dozen lakes in the Parkway Corridor of Algonquin well known for their Lake Trout fisheries. The Park as a whole has at least 149 Lake Trout lakes, which is over ten percent of the provincial total (even though Algonquin accounts for less than 1% of Ontario's area). The concentration of Lake Trout lakes in Algonquin Park is all the more important when you realize that Lake Trout are extremely sensitive to pollution and overfishing. Indeed, many Lake Trout lakes outside the Park have been lost in recent years, and the future of many others is not promising. Here in Algonquin, Lake Trout continue to be important as the top predator in most of our large lakes, and as one of the species most sought by fishermen. Even in the Park, however, some Lake Trout populations have been seriously diminished by fishing pressure.

This trail stop is named for Nick Martin, the fisheries scientist who devoted a lifetime to the study of Lake Trout in Algonquin. He first came to the Park in the 1940s, and went on to become the director of the Harkness Laboratory on Lake Opeongo, and the author of over 50 scientific papers and articles. He was world-renowned as a major authority particularly on such subjects as Lake Trout food habits and spawning requirements. Much of this knowledge is routinely applied to the management of Lake Trout both here in Algonquin and well beyond Park boundaries.

Although he had many other interests and made many other contributions to our knowledge of Algonquin, anyone who has ever enjoyed fishing for Lake Trout — or just been glad to know they're still down there — owes a great debt to the late Nick Martin.





## Post 11 Bryant's Bluff

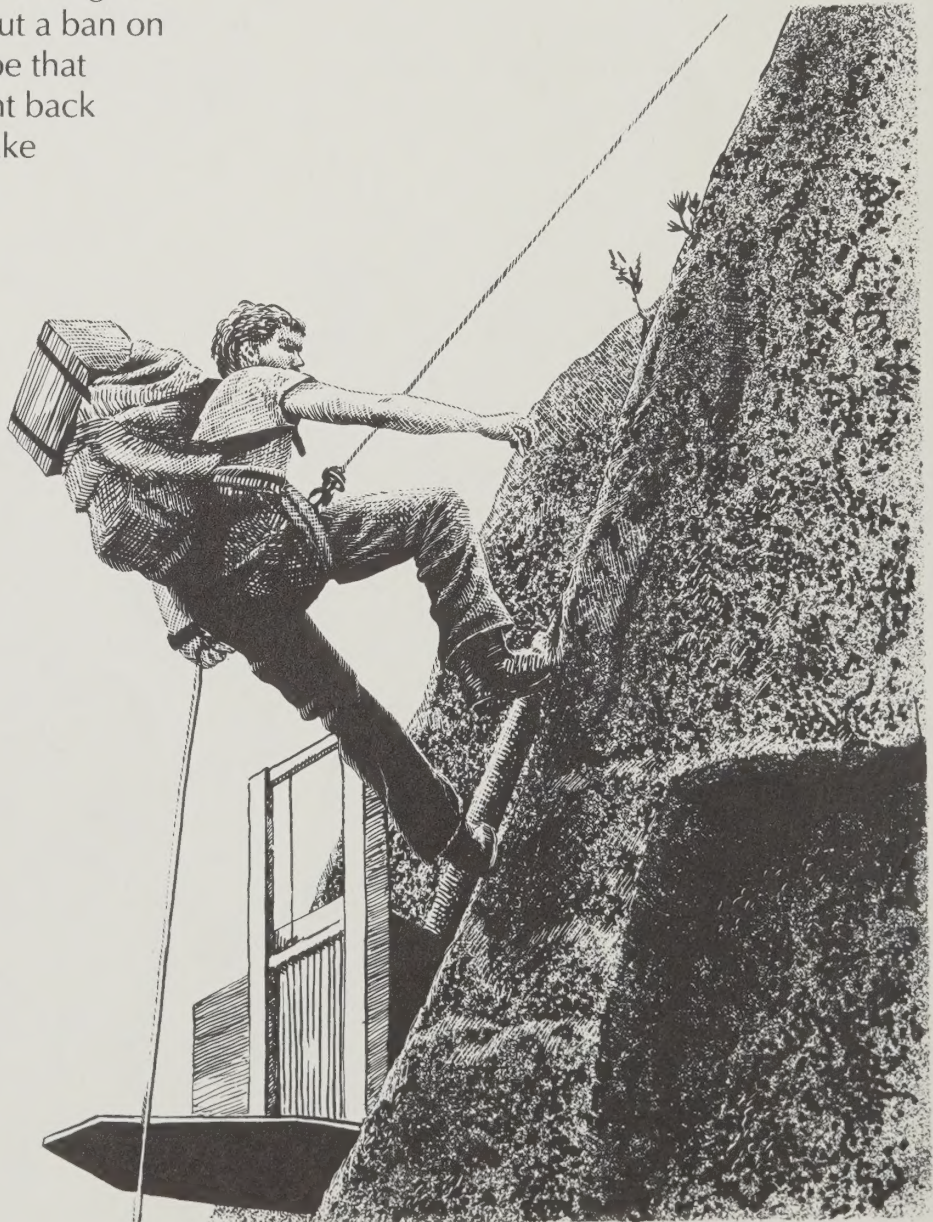
This stop honours the contribution made to Algonquin by the many thousands of summer employees — students or others — who have worked here over the Park's first century. Their energy, talent and willingness to work long and hard have made a positive difference to the Park and its visitors in thousands of different ways — some that you would call routine, others that were unusual in the extreme.

The particular student named here, for example, was Andrew Bryant. He worked in the Park only one summer (1984) but he made a special contribution right here. This cliff had been chosen as one of the places we were going to re-introduce the Peregrine Falcon back to Algonquin. (Pesticides in their prey, especially DDT, had wiped out Peregrines throughout eastern North America, but a ban on these chemicals gave hope that the birds could be brought back again). The idea was to take flightless young falcons hatched in captivity, put them in a box on a cliff (similar to the places falcons used to nest), feed them through a tube from the top of the cliff (you may still be able to see the tube leading down from right in front of you), release the birds when they could fly, and then continue to feed them until they could hunt for themselves. Then, if all went well, the birds would return in a year or two to this or another suitable site, and breed on their own, thus re-establishing the Peregrine as a breeding bird.

The only problem was lowering the box down the cliff and

fastening it in place. It so happened that Andrew Bryant was an experienced rock climber with his own equipment and, like so many summer employees, Andrew unhesitatingly volunteered his time and skill to get the job done.

We went on to raise twelve young falcons here that summer and the two following years. Although none of these particular birds is known to have survived, the program overall has been a success with new pairs of nesting Peregrine Falcons being reported every year from all over the continent. As for Andrew Bryant, the last we heard was that he was studying the endangered Vancouver Island Marmot out on the west coast. We wish him well.





## Post 12 Rutter's Revelation

Russ Rutter was a naturalist at the Park Museum and this little lake, now named after him, is the sort of place he loved. First he would delve into it on his own and then he would skillfully reveal its secrets to Park visitors.

Russ was a member of the Park interpretive staff for fourteen years. During this time he imparted his profound insight and appreciation of Algonquin and its infinite secrets to close to a million Park visitors, mainly through The Raven of which he wrote virtually every issue from 1960 until his retirement in 1973.

This alone established Russ as the nature writer read by more people in Ontario than all other writers of natural history books, magazine articles, and newsletters combined. But Russ did far more. His close association with the Algonquin wolf research program of the early 1960s led to his co-authoring, with Dr. Douglas Pimlott, of "The World of the Wolf", one of the best and most entertainingly written modern accounts of the timber wolf. Other writing included several valuable scientific papers

(especially on the Gray Jay) and many outstanding magazine articles written specifically for children.

Of necessity, Russ met far fewer people on a direct, personal basis, but there too, his influence was profound. Many of his much younger co-workers could not match him (even when he was 70) on snowshoes or in a canoe, and all were intellectually chastened sooner or later by Russ' patented "Hmmm-hmmm" of scepticism that greeted any theory or opinion that he felt was unsupported by solid evidence.

Some of Russ' last public appearances were at the introductory programs of our public wolf howling expeditions in the early 1970s. As Russ spoke of the tremendous adventure they were about to embark on, crowds of 1500 would sit spellbound for half an hour or more - and that included the very silent and very wide-eyed youngsters in the front row. Anyone who was there knows how much we and Algonquin lost when Russ died in 1976.



## Post 13(a) and (b)

We hope you have enjoyed your hike, the scenery, and learning about some of the people who contributed to Algonquin's first century as a great park.

If you do not wish to take this guide with

you, please put it in the box at this post. If you wish to keep the guide please pay at the trail entrance sign if you have not already done so. Thank you.



# Other Algonquin Trails

This is just one of 13 interpretive trails maintained in the Parkway Corridor of Algonquin Provincial Park. Each is designed to introduce you to some specific aspect of the Park and each has a guide similar to this one. The 12 other trails are listed below (distances are from the West Gate).

**WHISKEY RAPIDS TRAIL (AT KM 7.2)** This trail is a 2.1 km loop leading along the Oxtongue River to scenic Whiskey Rapids. The trail guide discusses the ecology and history of an Algonquin river.

**HARDWOOD LOOKOUT TRAIL (AT KM 13.8)** This 0.8 km walk introduces you to the ecology of a typical Algonquin hardwood forest and culminates in a fine view of Smoke Lake and the surrounding hills.

**MIZZY LAKE TRAIL (AT KM 15.4)** This 11 km trail requires an early start and a full day to do properly. It visits nine ponds and small lakes and affords some of the best chances to see wildlife in the Parkway Corridor.

**PECK LAKE TRAIL (AT KM 19.2)** The Peck Lake Trail is 1.9 km long and goes completely around the shoreline of Peck Lake before returning you to the parking lot. The trail guide explores the ecology of Algonquin lakes.

**TRACK AND TOWER TRAIL (AT KM 25)** A 7.7 km loop featuring a spectacular lookout over Cache Lake, this trail introduces you to some fascinating history. A 5.5 km side trip follows an abandoned railway to Mew Lake.

**HEMLOCK BLUFF TRAIL (AT KM 27.2)** This 3.5 km loop leads through mixed forest to an impressive view of Jack Lake. The guide discusses research in Algonquin.

**BAT LAKE TRAIL (AT KM 30)** This 5.6 km loop introduces you to basic Park ecology while visiting a beautiful hemlock stand, a fine lookout, and acidic Bat Lake.

**TWO RIVERS TRAIL (AT KM 31)** This 2.1 km loop includes an easy ascent to a pine-clad cliff and introduces the importance of change in the natural forests of Algonquin.

**LOOKOUT TRAIL (AT KM 39.7)** This 1.9 km loop is a fairly steep and rugged trail which rewards the hiker with a magnificent view of several hundred square kilometres of Algonquin. The trail guide discusses Park geology.

**BOOTH'S ROCK TRAIL (8 KM SOUTH FROM KM 40.3)** This 5.1 km loop visits two lakes and a spectacular lookout, returning via an abandoned railroad while the guide discusses man's impact on the Park.

**SPRUCE BOG BOARDWALK (AT KM 42.5)** Several boardwalk sections in this 1.5 km loop give you an excellent close-up look at two typical northern bogs. The guide discusses their ecology.

**BEAVER POND TRAIL (AT KM 45.2)** A 2.0 km loop yields excellent views of two beaver ponds while the guide provides an introduction to Algonquin's fascinating beaver pond ecology.

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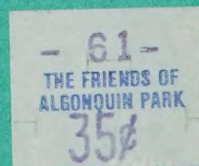


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